GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:104
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2005
MISMANAGEMENT IN PROCUREMENT OF MUSTARD
Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding mismanagement in the procurement of mustard in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is considering any plan to avert mismanagement in the procurement process;

(d) the effective steps taken in this direction;

(e) whether the benefits of procurement at Minimum Support Price is being appropriated by a few States;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to ensure equitable distribution of the benefits to all the States?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) to (d): Due to bumper production of mustard seed during the Rabi Crop season - 2005 and prices ruling below the Minimum Support Price, there has been record procurement of mustard seed in the country particularly in Rajasthan . Out of total procurement of 2093298 MT, 1403781 MT was procured in Rajasthan alone. Due to procurement of such a huge quantity, initially there were problems of storage space, working capital, packaging material etc. However, to overcome these problems, the Central government took steps through its central agency for booking the adequate storage capacity, arrangement of working capital and packaging material, etc.

(e) to (g): The procurement of mustard seed during Rabi crop season 2005 at the Minimum Support Price was undertaken in all the major mustard seed producing States - Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Chattishgarh and Punjab benefiting the mustard growing farmers of these States. The details of mustard seed procured in different States are as under:

States	Qty procured (in MT)
Rajasthan	1403781
Uttar Pradesh	39623
Gujarat	188255
Madhya Pradesh	137509
Chattishgarh	2159
Harayana	306275
Punjab	6718
Delhi	8978
Total	2093298